

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

purchasing a recording medium with at least some space available for receiving works;

authorizing [[a]] the purchaser of [[a]] the recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased; and

distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works ~~that were copied,~~

wherein the certain works are not purchased before or after authorizing.

2. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

3. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

4. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

5. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

6. (Original): The method of Claim 5, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

7. (Original): The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

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determining at a processor if the identifier is valid,
wherein authorizing a purchaser further includes authorizing a purchaser if the
identifier is determined valid.

8. (Original): The method of Claim 7, wherein authorizing purchasers further includes:

allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database and store the retrieved works
onto the recording medium using a writing device in communication with the
database.

9. (Original): The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving an identifier associated with a purchased recording medium;
receiving purchaser information; and
registering the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an
award if the received identifier is a valid identifier.

10. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered entities include at least one of
an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

11. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list
consisting of: an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

12. (Original): The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to one or more charitable
organizations selected by one of users or artists/authors.

13. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a means for purchasing a recording medium with at least some space available for
receiving works;



a means for authorizing ~~[[a]]~~ the purchaser of ~~[[a]]~~ the recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased; and

a means for distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works ~~that were copied~~,
wherein the certain works are not purchased before or after authorization.

14. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

15. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

16. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

17. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

18. (Original): The system of Claim 17, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

19. (Original): The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

a means for determining if the identifier is valid,

wherein the means for authorizing purchaser authorizes purchaser if the identifier is determined valid.



20. (Original): The system of Claim 19, wherein the means for authorizing purchasers further includes:

- a means for allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database; and
- a means for storing the retrieved works onto the recording medium using a writing device in communication with the database.

21. (Original): The system of Claim 13, further comprising:

- a means for receiving a identifier associated with a purchased recording medium;
- a means for receiving purchaser information; and
- a means for registering the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is a valid identifier.

22. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

23. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:

- an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

24. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

- an authorizing authority configured to authorize a purchaser of a recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased and distribute a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works ~~that were copied~~.



25. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

26. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of:

computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

27. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

28. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

29. (Original): The system of Claim 28, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

30. (Original): The system of Claim 29, wherein the authorizing authority comprises:

a data entry device configured to receive the identifier;

a memory configured to store approved identifier information; and

a processor in communication with the data entry device and the memory, the processor comprising:

a first component configured to determine if the identifier is one of the approved identifier based on the approved identifier information; and

a second component configured to instruct the purchaser having an approved identifier that they are authorized to make copies of works onto the blank medium.



31. (Original): The system of Claim 30, wherein the authorizing authority further comprises a database for storing works of the registered entities, wherein the processor further comprises a third component configured to allow purchasers having an approved identifiers to copy works stored on the database to their blank medium.

32 (Original): The system of Claim 31, wherein the third component includes a network accessible, web page configured to provide access to the database.

33. (Original): The system of Claim 24, further comprising:

a processor in communication with a network, the processor comprising:

a first component configured to receive a unique identifier associated with a purchased recording medium from a purchaser using a computer device coupled to the network;

a second component configured to receive purchaser information;

a third component configured to determine if the identifier is valid; and

a fourth component configured to register the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is determined valid.

34. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

35. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:

an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

36. (Currently Amended): A method comprising:



distributing to one or more users, in exchange for a predefined amount of
compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are
authorized to make copies of works capable of being copied onto the recording
medium;
maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain works; and
distributing a portion of the predefined amount of compensation ~~for the recording~~
~~medium~~ to the registered entities associated ~~with any certain works that were~~
~~copied~~.

37. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a means for distributing to one or more users, in exchange for a predefined amount of
compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are
authorized to make copies of works capable of being copied onto the recording
medium;
a means for maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain
works; and
a means for distributing a portion of the predefined amount of compensation ~~for the~~
~~recording medium~~ to the registered entities ~~associated with any certain works that~~
~~were copied~~.

